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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/780,977 | 02/09/2001 | Rao S. Bezwada | ETH1533 | 3155 |

27777 7590 11/25/2003
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J&J PAT. DKT. SECTION

EXAMINER

WEBMAN, EDWARD J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1617

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response Due 12.25.03

Art Unit: 1617

The reply filed on 11/13/02 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicants did not elect a barrier form from claims 19-23. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Regarding crosslinked polymers, the election of species should have recited claims 16-18 rather than 16-18 as directed to such polymers. Thus, as applicants assert, the claims wherein crosslinking is unspecified number 1-15, 19-23 rather than 1-14, 19-23 rather than 1-14, 19-23.

The examiner requests copies of all the references cited on PTO form 1449, paper #2, filed 2/9/01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Webman whose telephone number is (703) 308-4432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9 Am 5 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, S. Padmanabhan can be reached on (703) 305-1877. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3592 for regular communications and (703) 305-3592 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Webman/LR
January 28, 2003



EDWARD J. WEBMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1500